

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace Paragraph [0001] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0001] Most common locks are pin-tumbler cylinder locks or wafer-tumbler cylinder locks. Each of these locks contains a cylinder or plug which rotates within a housing or shell. In the pin-tumbler locks, pin holes containing top and bottom pin tumblers extend transversely through both the cylinder and the housing, and may be crossing the shear line, i.e. the boundary between the cylinder and the housing. The pin tumblers slide up and down within the pin holes defining a locked position and an unlocked position. When a pin tumbler crosses the shear line, the pin tumbler interferes with the rotation of the cylinder and the cylinder remains locked. When the correct key is inserted in the lock, the ~~biting~~ bitting on the key contact the pin tumblers and force them to slide within their pin holes such that no pin crosses the shear line. The cylinder can then rotate within the housing when a torque is applied by the key to unlock the lock.

Please replace Paragraph [0016] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0016] The engagement slots 130 of the base element 110 are spaced at distances that correspond to standard sizes of ~~biting-132~~ bitting 133 in the key 120. As is well-known in the art, the sequence of ~~biting~~ bitting sizes determines the proper key for a lock. Conventionally, each ~~biting~~ bitting size is designated by an integer number. For a lock with seven wafer tumblers, for example, a sequence of seven digits

determines the locking combination of the key. The sequence "1212121", for example, includes three ~~biting~~ bittings of size 2 and four ~~biting~~ bittings of size 1. By way of example, when the rider element 112 is provided with one engagement tab 132, and the base element 110 is provided with six engagement slots 130, each wafer tumbler 108 may assume any one of six positions corresponding to six different ~~biting~~ bitting numbers. When the rider element 112 is provided with two tabs 132 for six engagement slots 130, then each first wafer tumbler 108 may assume any one of five positions corresponding to five different ~~biting~~ bitting numbers. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 4, the rider element 112 is provided with three engagement tabs 132 for the six engagement slots 130 of the base element 110, and therefore the first wafer tumblers 108 for this embodiment may assume any one of four positions corresponding to four different ~~biting~~ bitting numbers. In general, the number of different ~~biting~~ bitting numbers available for each wafer tumbler 108 is determined by the number of available positions in which the engagement tabs 132 can be placed into the engagement slots 130. Assuming that the number of slots N2 is greater than the number of tabs N1, the number of available positions equals  $N2 - N1 + 1$ .

Please replace Paragraph [00021] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0021] The lock 100 is re-keyed by the following procedure. Initially, the rider elements 112 are engaged with the base elements 110 in a first engagement position that corresponds to a first key 120, e.g., the original unlocking key 120, as shown in FIG. 4. The first key 120 is inserted in the keyway 148 and the cylinder 102 is

rotated to unlock the lock 100 as shown in FIG. 4, thereby placing the lock 100 in a learn mode. In this state, the lock 100 may be re-keyed by insert in the re-keying tool 152 in the re-keying slot 150 such that the engagement arm 136 of the rider element 112 is disengaged from the base element 110. The first key 120 can be removed and a second key inserted in the keyway 148. The tool 152 is then removed, forcing the rider elements 112 to engage the base elements 104 in a second engagement position that is determined by the ~~biting 132~~ bitting 133 of the second key, thereby re-keying the lock 100 for the second key.

Please replace Paragraph [00023] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0023] The rider elements 112a of the second wafer tumblers 108a are disengaged from the corresponding base elements 110a by inserting a second re-keying tool 152a through a second re-keying slot 150a on the face 146 of the cylinder 102 in the unlocked position as seen in FIGS. 6 and 7. It will be appreciated that the engagement positions of the second rider elements 112a on the second base elements 110a are not dictated by, and thus are independent of the engagement positions of the rider elements 112 on the base elements 110. Accordingly, the unlocking keys may have either symmetric or non-symmetric ~~biting 132~~ bitting 133.